

Message Text

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46

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-14 USSS-00 SCSE-00 SCA-01

SY-02 A-01 FBIE-00 CCO-00 AID-05 OPR-01 EUR-10 IO-03

SCCT-01 EB-03 DRC-01 /081 W
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O 071842Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1713

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 4156

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: HUTCHISON KIDNAPPING: LOCAL RADIO COVERAGE

THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF LOCAL RADIO COVERAGE FROM 4:00 P.M.,
OCTOBER 6, UNTIL 2:00 P.M., OCTOBER 7.

1. LATE AFTERNOON AND EVENING REPORTS CONSISTED OF SUMMARIES
OF THE DAY'S EVENTS. REPORTS WERE THAT PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED
ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN AND SPANISH AMBASSADORS, AND THE
VENEZUELAN CHARGE, ALL THE REPORTERS WERE MOVED BACK 100 METERS
AND POLICE BARRICADES WERE REINFORCED BY ADDITIONAL POLICE
AGENTS. BECAUSE THERE WERE REPORTS THAT THREE STATION WAGONS
FROM THE AMERICAN EMBASSY WERE PARKED IN THE YARD OF ONE OF
THE HOUSES NEAR THE VENEZUELAN CONSULATE, THERE WAS SPECULATION
THAT THE KIDNAPPERS WOULD BE TAKEN TO THE AIRPORT AND THE
HOSTAGES WOULD BE RELEASED.

2. ALTHOUGH THE REPORTERS WERE NOT IN A POSITION TO SEE WHAT
TRANSPIRED DURING THE FOOD DELIVERY, THEY REPORTED THAT MENDEZ
VARGAS HAD YELLED THAT THE POLICE WERE TAKING SUSPICIOUS ACTIONS.
AND THAT HE ASKED THE DIPLOMATS TO GUARANTEE HIS SAFETY.

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THE DIPLOMATS REPORTEDLY TALKED WITH THE POLICE OFFICIALS

WHO AGREED TO THE GRANTING OF SUCH A GUARANTEE. AFTER THAT TWO MEMBERS OF THE URBAN GUERRILLA GROUP CAME OUT AND PICKED UP THE FOOD.

3. IN THE EVENING, RUMOR REPORTING REPLACED NEWS REPORTING. THERE WERE RUMORS THAT FRANCE HAD AGREED TO GRANT ASYLUM TO THE KIDNAPPERS AND THE POLITICAL PRISONERS. A RELIABLE SOURCE TOLD REPORTERS THAT ELEVEN POLITICAL PRISONERS HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM LA VICTORIA TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS IN SANTO DOMINGO, BUT PLINIO MATOS MOQUETE WAS NOT LISTED AS ONE OF THE PRISONERS WHO HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED. ANOTHER UNSUBSTANTIATED RUMOR WAS THAT 17 RESERVATIONS HAD BEEN MADE ON IBERIA FLIGHT 974 TO MADRID. SINCE THIS NUMBER (17) ADDED UP TO THE SUPPOSED NUMBER OF KIDNAPPERS INSIDE THE CONSULATE (6) AND THE REPORTED NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS WHO HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM LA VICTORIA (11), THERE WAS AN INDICATION THAT AN AGREEMENT WAS ABOUT TO BE REACHED..

4. THE NEXT REPORTS WERE THE DENIALS OF THE RUMORS. THE FRENCH CHARGE SAID HE HAD RECEIVED NO REQUEST, EITHER OFFICIAL OR UNOFFICIAL, FROM THE DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT ASKING FRANCE TO GIVE THE KIDNAPPERS POLITICAL ASYLUM. THE FRENCH CHARGE'S DENIAL WAS REINFORCED BY A REPORT FROM PARIS THAT THE FRENCH MINISTER OF INTERIOR HAD SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT GRANT ASYLUM TO PEOPLE GUILTY OF TAKING HOSTAGES. THE DEPARTURE OF IBERIA FLIGHT 974 AT 7:30 P.M. DISPELLED THE RUMOR THAT THE KIDNAPPERS WERE BEING PERMITTED TO GO TO EUROPE. FURTHERMORE, NO ONE AT THE AIRPORT HAD ANY KNOWLEDGE OF A SPECIALLY SCHEDULED FLIGHT THAT MIGHT BE TAKING OFF EITHER LATE SUNDAY NIGHT OR EARLY MONDAY MORNING.

5. WHILE THE REPORTERS WERE AT THE AIRPORT TO CHECK ON THE DEPARTURE OF THE IBERIA FLIGHT, DR. VICTOR GOMEZ BERGES, DOMINICAN CHANCELLOR ARRIVED ON PAN AMERICAN FLIGHT 431 FROM MIAMI. HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM THE 29TH MEETING OF THE UNGA, AND WHEN HE WAS ASKED ABOUT THE SITUATION AT THE VENEZUELAN CONSULATE, HE SAID HE COULD NOT COMMENT BECAUSE HE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO RECEIVE MUCH INFORMATION ABOUT THE KIDNAPPING WHILE HE WAS IN NEW YORK.

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6. EARLY MONDAY MORNING COVERAGE, IN ADDITION TO A SUMMARY OF SUNDAY'S EVENTS, INCLUDED STATEMENTS FROM TWO OF THE POLITICAL PRISONERS BEING HELD AT LA VICTORIA. RADHAMES CRUZ SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT COULD DO ANYTHING IT WANTED TO IN THE NAME OF NATIONAL SECURITY, CLAIMING THAT HE HAS BEEN ILLEGALLY DETAINED TWICE. CRUZ ASKED THAT THE PROBLEM BE SOLVED WITHOUT LOSS OF BLOOD. THE OTHER POLITICAL PRISONER, RAFAEL "FAFA" TAVARES, SENT A MESSAGE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE 12TH OF JANUARY

LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN WHICH HE SAID HE DID NOT LIKE THE METHODS THEY WERE USING, BUT HE WOULDN'T CONDEMN THEIR METHODS BECAUSE VIOLENCE IS THE ONLY WAY TO FIGHT THE SYSTEM. HE ADDED THAT THEY WERE AT A CRUCIAL MOMENT IN THE DOMINICAN REVOLUTION.

7. IT WAS REPORTED THIS MORNING (MONDAY, OCT. 7) THAT MEMBERS OF THE SPY CORPS (MIEMBROS DEL CUERPO DE ESPIAS) HAD RENTED VARIOUS FLOORS, AT A COST OF HUNDREDS OF PESOS DAILY, IN THE ELEVATED BUILDING PLAZA GAZCUE, WHICH IS LOCATED A FEW METERS FROM THE VENEZUELAN CONSULATE. THE NORTH AMERICAN AGENTS HAVE A PERFECT VIEW OF THE CONSULAR RESIDENCE AND THEY HAVE BROUGHT RECORDERS, TRANSMITTERS, AND CAMERAS WITH INFRARED LENSES WITH WHICH THEY HAVE TAKEN HUNDREDS OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE INSIDE OF THE VENEZUELAN CONSULAT. ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL SOURCE WHO TALKED WITH THE REPORTER, DOMINICAN OFFICIALS WOULD HAVE SOLVED THE PROBLEM BY NOW, EITHER WITH OR WITHOUT THE LOSS OF BLOOD, BUT THE SITUATION HAS BEEN PROLONGED BECAUSE THE NORTH AMERICAN SPIES HAVE TAKEN OVER THE CASE.

8. THROUGHOUT THE MORNING THERE WAS ONLY REGULAR PROGRAMMING WITH BRIEF NEWS SUMMARIES REVIEWING WHAT HAD HAPPENED. THE NOON NEWS SUMMARIES ALSO REPEATED REPORTS OF WHAT HAD ALREADY HAPPENED AND AS OF 2:00 P.M. THERE WERE NO NEW DEVELOPMENTS.
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 07 OCT 1974
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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TAGS: PINS, (HUTCHINSON, BARBARA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005